

Evangeline Parish



“Over the years, it has become clear that individual health is closely linked to community health—the health of the community and environment in which individuals live, work, and play. Likewise, community health is profoundly affected by the collective beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors of everyone who lives in the community”

Healthy People 2010

Parish Health Profiles 2005 — Your Parish at a Glance

	Evangeline	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
ECONOMICS, 2000				
% All persons in poverty	32.2%	19.6%	12.4%	--
% Children under 18 in poverty	39.5%	26.6%	16.6%	--
% Unemployed 16 and over	7.3%	7.3%	5.8%	--
EDUCATION 2002-2003				
School Expenditure per Student	\$6,476	\$6,906	--	--
Student Attendance (average daily attendance as a % of the average number of students enrolled)	92.8%	93.5%	--	--
% High School Drop Outs (as a % of incoming 9th grade)	6.0%	7.0%	--	--
MOTHERS AND CHILDREN, 2002				
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 births)	5.8	10.2	7.0	4.5
% Receiving prenatal care within first 3 months	86.5%	83.8%	83.7%	90.0%
% Receiving adequate prenatal care (modified Kessner)	80.7%	78.9%	76.2%	--
% Low birth weight	13.7%	10.5%	7.7%	5.0%
% Births to teens ages 15 - 19	19.0%	15.5%	10.6%	--
% Children fully immunized by 2 years old	--	69.8%	78.5%	90.0%
INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 2003 (new cases - rate per 100,000 population)				
Syphilis (primary and secondary)	--	4.1	2.5	0.2
Early Syphilis (primary, secondary and early latent)	0.0	8.6	5.4	--
Chlamydia	214.5	469.8	304.3	3.0
Gonorrhea	121.4	265.6	116.2	19.0
Tuberculosis	5.7*	5.8	5.1	1.0
STATEWIDE LEADING CAUSES OF DEATH, 2002 (death rate per 100,000 population)				
Heart	256.8	248.4	241.7	166.0
Cancer	242.7	209.7	193.2	159.9
Cerebrovascular Disease	76.2	57.4	56.4	48.0
Accidents	64.9	46.7	37.0	17.5
Diabetes	**	39.5	25.4	45.0
Chronic Lower Respiratory	**	37.8	43.3	--
COMMUNITY SAFETY, 2003				
Validated cases of child abuse/neglect (rate per 1,000 population)	5.7	10.9	12.4	10.3
Deaths caused by motor vehicle crashes (rate per 100 Million Vehicle Miles Traveled)	4.0	2.1	1.5	0.8
HEALTH BEHAVIORS, 2004				
	Region 4	Louisiana	U.S.	HP 2010
% Current cigarette smokers (adults 18+)	24.7%	23.5%	21.0%	12.0%
% Obese - BMI >30 (adults 20+)	28.1%	27.0%	31.1%	15.0%
% Having a mammogram within 2 years (women 40+)	71.6%	74.3%	74.6%	70.0%
% Having a pap smear within 3 years (women 18+)	86.6%	85.2%	85.9%	90.0%
% Having a flu shot in past year (adults 65+)	76.0%	68.6%	67.9%	90.0%

Data Sources:

Economics: U.S. Census 2000 Summary File 3 (SF 3) - Sample Data, 2000

Education: Louisiana Department of Education District-reported data submitted to the Student Information System (SIS) end-of-year (EOY) report and Profile of Educational Personnel (PEP) System. Office of Management and Finance, Division of Planning, Analysis and Information Resources. District Composite Report 2003-2004.

Mothers and Children: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005

Infectious Diseases: DHH/OPH, Sexually Transmitted Disease Program. 2004 and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Trends in Reportable Sexually Transmitted Disease in the United State, 2003". NA= Rate not available, # of cases is less than 5

Leading Causes of Death: DHH/OPH, Louisiana State Center for Health Statistics, 2004 Louisiana Health Report Card and National Vital Statistics Reports, Vol. 53, No. 15, February 2005 (**Rates for counts less than 20 are unreliable and are not reported)

Community Safety: Child Abuse--Louisiana Department of Social Services, Office of Community Services, prepared by Prevent Child Abuse Louisiana and Motor Vehicle Deaths--EM S/Injury Research & Prevention Program

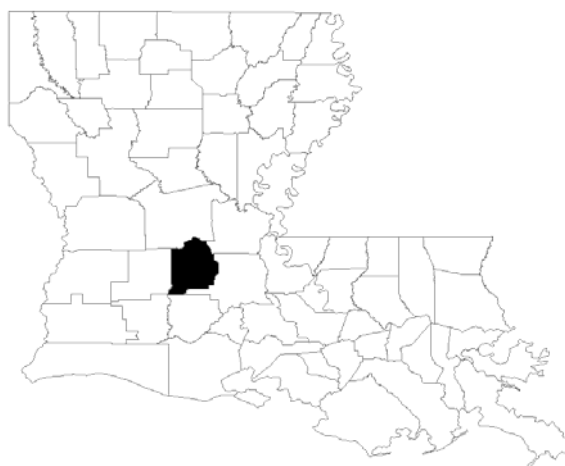
Healthy Behaviors: DHH/OPH, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), 2004

History^{1, 2}

Evangeline was created on June 15, 1910. It was appropriately named after the ill-fated heroine of Longfellow's poem. While the parish itself is new, the history of its people extends over a long period of time.

Evangeline, a part of the celebrated Attakapas prairie region, was settled by exiled Acadians. The center of business activity in the parish, Ville Platte was first settled in the mid-19th century and was presumably named because it was situated on the flatlands just south of the rolling hills north of Alexandria. The city was incorporated in March 1858. The area offers

Chicot State Park, Crooked Creek Recreation Area, and hosts the Louisiana Cotton Festival, featuring "tournoi" medieval jousting tournaments.



Parish Seat³ Ville Platte

Major Cities (population over 5,000)

- Ville Platte

Parish Population⁴

2000..... 35,434

2003 (estimate)35,149

2000 Population by Race

White..... 70.4%

African-American 28.6%

Some other race..... 1.0%

Hispanic of Latino (of any race) 1.0%

2000 Population by Age

Under 5 years 7.9%

5-14 16.5%

15-17 5.1%

18-19 3.2%

20-24 6.5%

25-64 48.0%

65 & over 12.8%

Geography and Statistics⁵

Average elevation 75ft.

Land area in square miles664

Water area in square miles15.3

Climate

Average temperatures

Annual	68°
January	58°
July	83°
Annual average rainfall	71.2 inches

Labor Force (2001)⁶

Evangeline Parish

Civilian.....	11273
Employed	10591
Unemployed.....	682
Unemployment.....	6%

Louisiana

Civilian.....	2,055,000
Employed	1,956,500
Unemployed.....	98,500
Unemployment Rate	4.8%

Colleges/Universities (within one hour commute)

- Louisiana College, Pineville
- Louisiana State University and A&M College, Alexandria
- Louisiana State University and A&M College, Eunice
- University of Louisiana at Lafayette

1. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
2. Louisiana Office of Culture Recreation and Tourism, 1998. keywords: regional information, <<http://www.crt.state.la.us/crt/tourism/>>.
3. [Louisiana Almanac](#), 2002-2003 edition, Pelican Publishing Company, Gretna, LA. 2002.
4. U.S. Census Bureau, Summary File 1 (SF 1) and Summary File 3 (SF 3) <<http://www.census.gov>>.
5. U.S. Census Bureau: State and County QuickFacts <<http://www.census.gov>>.
6. Louisiana Department of Labor, Civilian Labor Force Summary <http://www.ldol.state.la.us/forms/lmi/CLF_Parishes_2000-Present.xls>.